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REMARKS

Claims 1-31 are pending. Claims 12-22 and 27-30 are allowed. The allowance of claims 12-22 and 27-30 is gratefully acknowledged. Claims 1-11, 23-26, and 31 are rejected. An amendment has been made to claim 31.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claim 31 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112(2) because of informalities. Claim 31 has been amended to correct informalities.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-11 and 23-26 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the Examiner believes the claims are drawn to a computer implemented process that merely manipulates data or an abstract idea without a limitation to a practical application in the technological arts. The Applicants respectfully disagree. Claims 1-11 relate to requantizing coefficients of a bit stream, a practical application in networking technology.

According to particular example embodiments, requantization is one the mechanisms “to further rescale or compress an already compressed video stream. The levels represented by quantized transform coefficients are further reduced to a smaller number of levels after requantization. With fewer levels represented, more sequences of numbers are similar. For example, the quantized sequence of 4 2 3 1 after another division by two and rounding becomes 2 1 2 1. Requantization is similarly an irreversible process and hence introduces further loss of information associated with the original frame or image. Consequently, it is desirable to provide improved techniques for minimizing error and inaccuracies due to requantization.” (page 2, line 31 – page 3, lines 6). It should be noted that requantization can be applied to a variety of bit streams and not merely to video streams.

Bit stream input coefficients are requantized so that the bit stream can be transmitted more effectively or efficiently while minimizing error and inaccuracies. In some particular

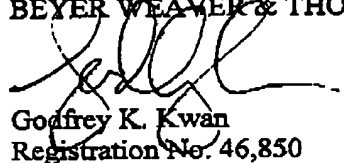
examples, requantization saves significant bandwidth. In other particular examples, requantization allows transmission at a rate more appropriate for a particular subnetwork. Requantization coefficients associated with a bit stream is believed to be a practical application allowing efficient network transmissions and not merely an abstract idea.

Dependent claims further support the practical application of the claim language. Dependent claim 2 recites "wherein the quantized coefficients are DCT coefficients of an MPEG encoded bitstream." The DCT coefficients of an MPEG encoded bitstream are requantized. Dependent claims 6 and 25 recite minimizing "requantization error" which is a practical solution to a problem in requantization of bitstreams.

In light of the above remarks and claim amendments, the Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable in their present form. Please feel free to contact the undersigned at the number provided below if there are any questions, concerns, or remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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